

City of Lawton Community Relations Office (580)581-3301 tvrska@lawtonok.gov

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAWTON – The City of Lawton, in collaboration with area partners and agencies, will initiate the Lawton Youth Council in June 2019 – a 10-month program for high school juniors and seniors that is intended to teach students about roles of elected officials and the inner-workings of local government.

The program is spearheaded by Ward 7 Councilwoman Onreka Johnson and Community Relations Director Tiffany Martinez Vrska, in coordination with all members of Lawton City Council, local volunteers and organizations.

"In addition to city government, and the roles and responsibilities of City Council members, students will have the chance to learn about other tiers of government," Johnson said. "We have coordinated with officials from the Comanche County Courthouse and Emergency Management, as well as Fort Sill. We will also teach them about some of our closest community partners. We hope this program will encourage them to learn more about civic engagement and responsibility, and get involved throughout the community."

Applications and informational materials on the program will be made available through high school counselors and online at lawtonok.gov. All packets should be returned by May 15. Those with additional questions can contact the Community Relations Office at 580.581.3301 or Johnson at 580.585.0806.